

The Great War—1501st Day

unaware in the barrage. This apparently explains the light counter artillery fire Thursday morning.

A German prisoner officer is quoted as saying: "The Hindenburg line in its present state is untenable."

Aside from the strategic value of the reduction of the St. Mihiel salient, the operation by the Americans has netted vast numbers of prisoners and huge quantities of guns, ammunition and general stores.

The desperate efforts of the enemy to escape through the forest near Vigneulles partially succeeded, but not so well as to detract from the brilliant result. Before the American line stretched across the edge of the woods, it is estimated that thousands escaped from the trap. Those

Germans Fail to Carry Out Orders to Hold Ailette Line

LONDON, Sept. 14.—The French up to noon today had advanced between one and two miles on an eleven-mile front.

They began the new attack at 5 o'clock this morning on both sides of the Ailette River and between the Ailette and Vesle rivers. One division at an early hour had taken 1,000 prisoners making a total of 1800 German prisoners captured on that front.

The attack in the direction of the Forest of Coucy, at the southern end of the St. Gobain Massif progressed as planned.

South of the Ailette River the French captured Mont des Singes and the villages of Allentot and Sanoy. They also reached the edge of the town of Vailly, on the Aisne.

In their attack south of the Aisne River they made satisfactory progress and captured prisoners, but details are lacking. The advance of the French threatens to turn the flank of the German defensive positions on the Chemin des Dames and it also endangers Laon.

The German counter attacks on the Ailette River front appeared to have been weak, although the front line was strongly held. The German prisoners say they had orders to hold at all costs.

Americans Retake 155 Square Miles in 36 Hours' Fighting

(By The Associated Press.)

WITH THE AMERICAN FORCES IN LORRAINE, Sept. 13 (Delayed).—Thirty-six hours of fighting netted General Pershing's forces approximately 155 square miles of territory in the St. Mihiel salient which had been in German hands since the autumn of 1914.

Following the American troops through the captured villages The Associated Press correspondent found on every hand evidences of long control by the Germans. Bills for electric lighting and supplies had been paid with curious currency on which the Germans had printed French monetary terms.

The inhabitants of the salient were absolutely ignorant of the events of history in the last four years, knowing only what their captors had told them. Here the sad stories heard in the whole of the reclaimed districts of France were accentuated by the long years of German control, which had isolated the people from news of relatives and of world happenings.

Every American entering the villages experienced the same reception as that accorded to Secretary of War Baker and General Pershing and their party. Aged men and women seized and kissed the hands of the officers and correspondents, crying and laughing, the curiously aged children imitating their elders unknowingly.

For their own compatriot, however, the greeting was deeper, and the French patrols and troops following were even more affected than those who had been delivered.

Later in the evening General Pershing and Secretary Baker resumed their journey in other sections of the regained region.

20,000 Hun Prisoners Taken in Drive and More Are Coming In

PARIS, Sept. 14.—German prisoners taken by General Pershing's forces since the beginning of the American offensive in the St. Mihiel sector on Thursday are said to total 20,000.

LONDON, Sept. 14.—In addition to the Germans captured by the Americans in the St. Mihiel salient, more prisoners are coming in. The inside of the pocket has not yet been cleared, and it is expected that more guns will be taken.

North of the old St. Mihiel salient the Germans are readjusting their lines. In the neighborhood of Chatillon, six miles northwest of Fresnoes, the enemy is retiring and French patrols are in touch with him. The Germans have gone back for a distance of one to two miles at this point.

It is pointed out that any advance made by the French to the north of the Ailette River will seriously affect the St. Gobain Massif.

German Prisoners Admit Desertions Are Increasing

(By Canadian Press.)

AT BRITISH ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Sept. 13.—The Germans are deserting in increasing numbers.

It is stated that the German General Staff will not find an opportunity to withdraw any battered units for rest and recuperation. Results of these tactics, officials here hold, soon would be reflected in the accelerated disruption of the enemy's morale, which official and unofficial reports from abroad declare has been seriously damaged by the events of the last two months.

If strategists here have correctly guessed Marshal Foch's plan, each phase of the offensive will be designed to reach some tactical position while the enemy's morale is being shattered by the events of the last two months.

Many officers believe this purpose will be shown more clearly as the winter sets in by continued pressure against the German lines all along the front, to keep the enemy from stabilizing his position, and to keep his men from getting any rest, and restoration of morale in that way. There is no question in the minds of these officers that the supreme commander is aiming at the morale of the German army by these harassing tactics as much as he is at the advancement of his own battlefield. Destruction of the enemy army, after

who did escape were small units, rarely greater than companies and never offered to fight unless encountered by some patrol, and even then their resistance was slight.

The spirit of retreat had entered that part of the German army, and there were scores of instances where the men and even officers professed satisfaction at their capture.

The war material captured included a long train of motor cars, containing a complete equipment of gas projectors, and this may have had a bearing on the failure of the Germans to carry out their attack shortly before the Americans began their operation. It is known that the Germans planned such an attack at the same time as the American advance, but the equipment was delayed and it was decided to postpone the attack.

being steadily driven from all ground where rear guards might prolong resistance in old defensive works. The First Guards Reserve Division, much depleted, has been identified in the Meuse valley, and Austrian artillery has been in action astride the Havrincourt-Pesquiers road. Three battalions of one regiment of the 24th Division now consist of one company each, with an average of barely a hundred men.

Prisoners admit disaffection and lack of discipline are growing at an alarming rate in the German army and desertions are on the increase. A battalion of the 16th Infantry Regiment, which had gained the name "Lions of Cambrai," broke during our advance recently across Santerre and fled to Nesle, where they indulged in looting, after which the remnants struggled away. A captured map shows that an attack against our First Army front was being organized when Marshal Foch's stroke upset the enemy's scheme. It is dated the 10th of July.

On the Cambrai front we are maintaining all gains. Further north we captured Fosse 8, which figured in the early fighting around La Bassée. We are pushing through Auchy-en-Bassee, near which we took the railway triangle three days ago.

Wounded Forget Their Sufferings in Joy Over Victory

PARIS, Sept. 14.—The first parties of wounded who arrived at an evacuation hospital behind the battle front today from the St. Mihiel fighting forgot their sufferings in their joy over the hearing the Germans had been given, says the correspondent of "La Liberté" behind the fighting line.

A captured German officer, who interrogated, declared the Americans were "terrible adversaries." The correspondent reports:

The wounded men, in talking of the engagement, described the fighting as of the severest sort, especially in the densest woods, where the machine guns, and also the snipers, were deadly. Hardly two hours after the attack was launched the Germans started a counter attack with three divisions, which, however, were unable to stop the American advance.

"The American troops," adds the correspondent, "showed magnificent bravery and disregard of danger, while some of the French regiments went into the battle with their colors flying and the men singing the 'Marseillaise'."

Lieut. Col. Drum Heads Separate St. Mihiel Staff, March Declares

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—General Pershing has organized a staff for the first American army, which remains at General Headquarters of the American Expeditionary Force, General March, Chief of Staff, announced today.

Lieutenant Colonel Hugh A. Drum is the chief of staff of the new army and his assistant chiefs of staff are Colonel Robert McCleave and Lieutenant Colonel Jens Bugge, Willey Howell, John L. De Witt and Lewis H. Watkins.

Major General Edward F. McLaughlin is chief of artillery and the heads of the administrative and technical services are:

Adjutant general, Colonel Joseph F. Barnes.

Inspector general, Colonel Jacob C. Johnson.

Judge advocate, Lieutenant Colonel Blanton Winslow.

Chief quartermaster, Major George Lubbock.

Chief surgeon, Colonel Alexander N. Stark.

Chief engineer, Brigadier General J. J. Morrow.

Chief signal officer, Lieutenant Colonel Parker Hitt.

Chief ordnance officer, Colonel Edward P. O'Hara.

Chief of motor transport corps, Colonel William H. Winter.

Chief of air service, Colonel William Mitchell.

It was this staff which handled the movement at St. Mihiel under General Pershing, General March said. He added that the chiefs of the chemical warfare service and additional administrative and technical services had not been designated at the time General Pershing reported the other members of the new staff.

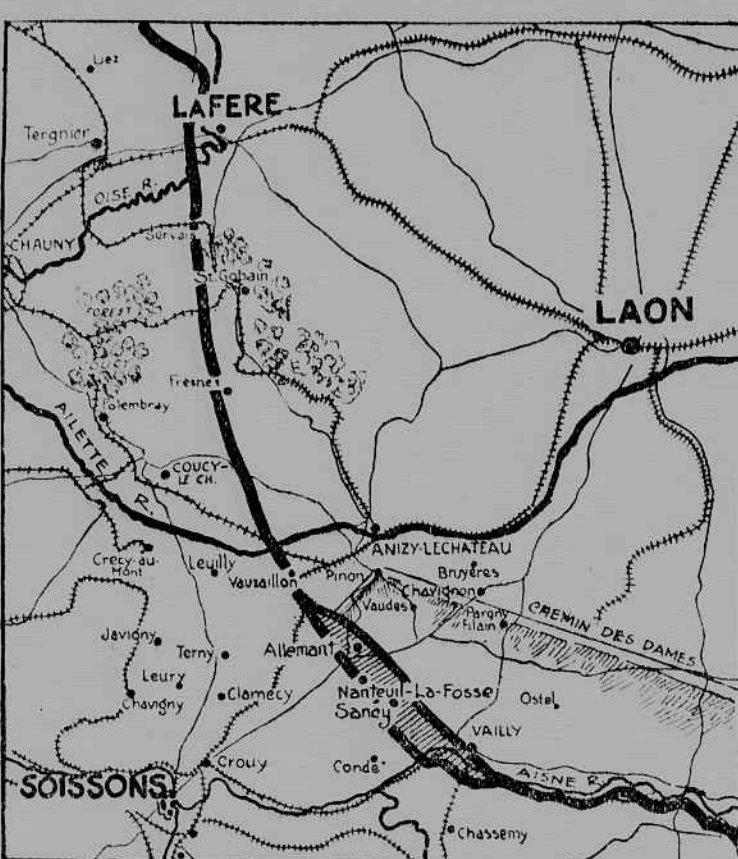
Foch Hammers Foe To Destroy Morale And Advance Lines

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—Behind the brief official announcement that the French today had attacked south of the Aisne and on the Oise-Ailette sector, military observers here believe, lies a definite hint as to the basic strategy governing the Allied operations. The purpose of Marshal Foch is now thought to strike at various points of the long Western front in such rapid succession that the German General Staff will not find an opportunity to withdraw any battered units for rest and recuperation. Results of these tactics, officials here hold, soon would be reflected in the accelerated disruption of the enemy's morale, which official and unofficial reports from abroad declare has been seriously damaged by the events of the last two months.

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Many officers believe this purpose will be shown more clearly as the winter sets in by continued pressure against the German lines all along the front, to keep the enemy from stabilizing his position, and to keep his men from getting any rest, and restoration of morale in that way. There is no question in the minds of these officers that the supreme commander is aiming at the morale of the German army by these harassing tactics as much as he is at the advancement of his own battlefield. Destruction of the enemy army, after

ASTRIDE THE CHEMIN DES DAMES



The French yesterday wrested the shaded area from the enemy

"It's Hot Stuff," Said General March yesterday, discussing the American victory at St. Mihiel.

The Official Statements

FRENCH

PARIS (DAY).—From the entire French front there is nothing to report.

BRITISH

LONDON (NIGHT).—A hostile raid was successfully repulsed this morning in the Gouzeaucourt sector. In the Havrincourt sector our troops have pushed forward and have established new posts in the trench lines east and north of the village.

Local fighting has taken place on both sides of La Bassée Canal. Our troops have made progress and have taken some prisoners.

The hostile artillery has been active with gas shells in the neighborhood of Neuve Chapelle. A raid attempted by the enemy last night in this sector was driven off.

LONDON (DAY).—The number of prisoners captured by us in the operations carried out by the Third Army with complete success in the Trescault and Havrincourt sector on the 12th inst. exceeds 1,500.

As the result of the progress made by our troops yesterday northwest of St. Quentin our line has been established to the east of the villages of Bihecourt and Jeancourt.

During the last twenty-four hours the enemy has made several determined, but unsuccessful, attempts to recover the positions captured by us in the neighborhood of Gouzeaucourt and Havrincourt.

Yesterday a strong hostile attack, in which the enemy employed flame throwers, was repulsed with heavy losses south of Gouzeaucourt. We secured several prisoners.

At Havrincourt the enemy attacked yesterday morning in force under cover of a heavy artillery bombardment, and penetrated the eastern portion of the village. After hard fighting the attacking German infantry were driven out and our positions were restored.

North of Havrincourt we advanced slightly between the village and the canal. In the evening the enemy at-

tacked on the east of Trescault and gained a footing in our trenches, but was driven out immediately, leaving a number of dead in front of our lines.

During the night a strong bombing attack, in which liquid fire was employed, was made against our positions northwest of Gouzeaucourt. After forcing our advanced posts to withdraw, this attack also was successfully beaten off.

Local fighting took place yesterday in the Meuse valley without material change in the situation. During the night the enemy attacked south of Meuseval and was repulsed. We established a new post during the night along the west bank of the Canal du Nord in the neighborhood of Sauchy-Cauchy and opposite Oisy-le-Verger.

In the La Bassée sector we have occupied Auchy.

GERMAN

BERLIN (DAY).—Northeast of Bixchoote we made prisoners during the repulse of an enemy partial attack.

In the canal sector our enemy advances led to violent fighting at Meuseval and Havrincourt. Partial enemy attacks at Gouzeaucourt, north of Verdun and on both sides of the Ham-St. Quentin Road, were repulsed.

Attacks by the enemy between the Ailette and the Aisne after strong artillery preparation failed in front of our lines. In the evening East Prussians repelled fresh attacks.

There was artillery activity between the Aisne and the Vesle. South of Ornes and on the Verdun-Etain Road the enemy was repulsed. Between the Cotes Lorraine and the Moselle the day passed with moderate activity. The enemy did not continue his attacks yesterday.

East of Combrès and northwest of Thiaucourt the enemy felt his way forward toward our lines. There were local engagements to the east of Thiaucourt.

On this front advanced their line slightly at several points southeast of Villers-en-Prayeres, to the northwest of Revillon, to-day.

An American raiding party was sent out against the enemy to the east of Villers-en-Prayeres before daylight today. The party brought back a few prisoners.

There was the usual amount of artillery firing during the day.

American Successes Minimized, but Hun Papers Admit Defeat

AMSTERDAM, Sept. 14.—The German newspapers are attempting to minimize the advance of the Americans at St. Mihiel, but the Berlin correspondent of the Cologne "Volks-Zeitung" admits that "it is true the American attack was marked by certain losses in prisoners and some guns on our part." The correspondent adds, significantly:

"Even if an attack on our position at the Chemin des Dames should succeed, or if the supreme army command should give up this area for other reasons, this would no longer have any significance for the strategic position, even if it were the matter of an area which has been so hotly fought over as the Chemin des Dames."

The Frankfurt "Zeitung" remarks: "It is a pity that the way things happened gives our enemies, especially the Americans, the chance of representing the evacuation of the St. Mihiel salient as a considerable tactical success—as a new link in the chain, and all the more so because, according to American reports, our loss in prisoners appears to be a considerable one."

The "Cologne Gazette," after saying that careful preparations had been made looking to the possibility of evacuation and new positions to close the angle at its base line had been constructed a long time ago, adds:

"The withdrawal of the advanced troops has the most difficult task that had to be performed, but the enemy's plan to cut them off failed, and all got back, without loss worth mentioning, to their new positions, which run from north of Combrès Hill directly in a southeasterly direction to the Moselle."

5,320 Austrians in Number Bagged by Pershing's Troops

PARIS, Sept. 14.—The prisoners taken by the Americans in the St. Mihiel sector number nearly 20,000, according to Marshal Foch, editor of the "ECHO de Paris," among them being 5,320 Austrians.

Premier Clemenceau, who paid a brief visit to Marshal Foch Friday, informed M. Huttin that 2,100 inhabitants were still in St. Mihiel when the Franco-American troops entered that town, and that the Germans had only taken away seventy-six of the French for the most part young persons, the night before they evacuated.

"I absolutely refuse to give you any other confidences but this: things will go very well," said the Premier.

Aisne Line Advanced Northwest of Revillon By American Forces

(By The Associated Press.)

WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY ON THE AISNE FRONT, Sept. 12 (10 P. M.).—American infantrymen operating

The "Rheinisch Westfälische Zeitung" says: "The enemy's preparation for the attack had long been observed, and the retirement was effected without disturbance by the enemy."

Two British Aviators Take Enemy Battery

(Correspondence of The Associated Press.)

WITH AMERICAN FORCES ON THE BRITISH FRONT, Aug. 25.—The capture of a German battery by two British aviators was one of the unique incidents of the recent fighting in this area.

The two airplanes, fighting scouts, sent out to harry the German infantry in the course of an important "local action" undertaken by the British and American troops, had dispersed a battalion of German infantry marching toward the battle area when they sighted, a quarter of a mile behind the German line, a suspicious group of objects under some trees. Near them were forty or fifty horses which were evidently being harnessed to something. The secret was soon out. The Germans were trying to remove a battery of field guns before the British and American infantry appeared.

Without horses this task would be impossible, so the airmen decided that the horses must be either killed or stampeded. The airmen dived down until they were less than 100 feet from the ground. Then they opened fire, aiming at the guns and the demoralized gunners, but seeking chiefly to frighten the horses. The horses required little encouragement in this direction, for their drivers desired them in search of cover and soon the animals were galloping off in all directions.

New Advance Of Americans Is Expected

Continued from page 1

ever he views it. The Kaiser and all his ministers have been trying desperately to rally their people, but the decline in morale of the enemy is steady under a series of reverses.

Pershing has hit the place where Roques attacked in 1915, when the attacking force was put to the severest test, and when the moral effect of success is more important than the military gains.

The Allied statesmen hinted broadly enough recently that they expect no miracle and are looking for no decisive engagement until 1919. For that reason it is well to consider the political side of Pershing's operation. A failure would have been disappointing, but not disastrous. On the other hand, success this year means easier political conditions during the coming winter.

Where Ludendorff is going to find sufficient nerve tone for the Germans and their allies, it is difficult to see. Foch is keeping him too busily engaged to undertake any diversion of importance. With the American army

fresh, undaunted, strong in its youth and power, and unfettered by traditions and precedents, the future grows daily brighter for the Entente Alliance. Pershing has pushed a considerable distance through Lloyd George's "long tunnel."

King and Premier Join President in Praising Pershing

Three official messages of congratulation on the American victory at St. Mihiel passed yesterday between the old world and the new. They are:

President Wilson to General Pershing: "Please accept my warmest congratulations on the brilliant achievement of the army under your command. The boys have done what we have expected of them and done it in the way we most admire. We are deeply proud of them and of their chief. Please convey to all concerned my grateful and affectionate thanks."

King George to President Wilson: "On behalf of the British Empire I heartily congratulate you on the brilliant achievement of the American and Allied troops under the leadership of General Pershing in the St. Mihiel salient."

The far-reaching results secured by these successful operations, which have marked the active intervention of the American army on a great scale under its own administration, are the happiest augury for the complete, and, I hope, not far distant triumph of the Allied cause."

Premier Lloyd George to General Pershing: "I desire to offer to you and your brave armies heartiest congratulations on your great victory. The enemy has made many mistakes in this war, but none greater than when he underrated the valor, determination and intrepid spirit of the brave soldiers from the great democracy of the United States. Now that he has tested the morale of the American armies, the enemy knows what is in store for him. The news came to me on my sick bed. It was better and infinitely more palatable than any physic."

Cramton Sees Greek Army

ATHENS, Greece, Sept. 14.—Louis C. Cramton, member of Congress from Michigan, has returned here from a tour of the Macedonian front, having traveled along the line from Avlona to Salonica. At the latter town he saw Premier Venizelos.

An enthusiastic over the morale of the Allied troops on this front, particularly the Greeks," said Mr. Cramton, in an interview in the "Patrie." The Congressman said that in America Premier Venizelos was regarded as one of the greatest statesmen of Europe.

Mr. Cramton predicted a bright future for Greece, and dwelt upon the friendship existing between the United States and Greece.

Accepts Crown of Finland

WASHINGTON, Sept. 14.—An official dispatch from France to-day says it is reported that Prince Henry Charles of Reuss has accepted the crown of Finland.

Americans' Pace At St. Mihiel Too Swift for Boche

Onrush of Divisions Prevents Germans Making Strong Resistance

Prisoners Swarm Back Mud and Storm Stop Tanks and Airplanes, but Yankees Sweep On to Victory

AMERICAN ARMY HEADQUARTERS, Friday, Sept. 13.—Nothing could better illustrate the increasing weakness of the German army than the ease with which the Franco-American force intrusted with the task advanced in the St. Mihiel salient. It is true the operation was admirably planned and carried out, but one rarely has witnessed anything like the ease of that first day's fighting.

There was, of course, a barrage, but not a very terrific affair, and the tanks, after the barrage there was nothing very startling in the way of gunfire, and the machine gun rattle produced quite an effect by coming only now and then.

Yankees Sweep Onward

All the while the Americans were going forward with the steadiness of a

flood, trickling into woods on one side and passing out of them on the other, spreading about a village and overwhelming it, and breaking against a hill or mountain and gradually working over the top. They moved like something worked by a clock, but always well ahead of schedule. Rain-soaked and slipping about in the mud, they still went forward, while back along the flood came long lines of gray-blue creatures who had been swamped in its course.

Whatever way one looked there were sure to be German prisoners as fine as you could wish for or creatures so poor that their presence in the line afforded the most damning proof of German ineffectiveness in man power.

The mud had proved as much for many of the tanks and the airplanes had swept the airplanes out of the sky, but still the Americans went on, with just the booming of a few big guns behind them and a melting away of the enemy in front.

Resistance Strong at Times

There was, however, plenty of fierce fighting. The Bois de la Vierge (wood deleted) was not cleared without a struggle, which for a creature so poor that their presence in the line afforded the most damning proof of German ineffectiveness in man power.

But even these things did not check the steady movement of the whole army. Despite the furious storm the tanks got along without a mishap. There is no disputing that the Boche made a poor showing, but he was for the first time up against an American army, fighting division beside division on a solid front, and he died neither its pace nor its determination. It was a great victory for a new army, with new staffs, in a new country, because it was a victory for exactness in thinking and precision in working.

That the Boche was meeting better men we knew; that the new machine was doing better work than the old we didn't know. We are now old to know it.

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The Women's Appari Association of the Women's Oversea Hospitals, U.S.A., have established and are maintaining a hospital at Laheueyne, France, for the relief of women and children, young and old, and babies, who are dying by the thousands in the devastated sections for lack of medical care. The Association will be represented at our establishment on Tuesday and will be allowed to receive contributions.

DON'T LET THEM DIE YOU CAN SAVE THEM

WOMEN'S APPARI ASSOCIATION